



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Explore Nature in the Parks Friday, July 20

Spend the evening getting a bit closer to nature with the Fairfax County Park Authority on Friday, July 20, 2007. Lake Accotink Park and Hidden Pond Nature Center will offer evening programs that take a closer look at inhabitants of the parks when it gets dark.

While both Lake Accotink and Hidden Pond are filled with animal activity throughout the day, visiting at night gives residents the opportunity to learn first hand about the nocturnal activities of park creatures.

Lake Accotink will hold a Nature Night Hike from 8:30 to 10 p.m. Suitable for children seven years and older, kids and adults will join park staff for a hike through the forest searching for bats, owls and foxes as they come out to hunt prey. Dress for evening weather and bring a flashlight!

Lake Accotink is located at 7500 Accotink Park Road in Springfield. Reservations and prepayment of \$5 per adult and \$3 per child under 16 are required. For more information or to inquire about group reservations, please call 703-569-0285 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/accotink>.

If exploring the waters of a natural pond is more your style, visit Hidden Pond Nature Center from 7:30 to 9 p.m. for their After Dark in the Park Pond Study. Spend the evening looking into dip nets, learning what exactly lives in the water. Popsicles will be served at the end of the program as a Friday evening treat.

Hidden Pond Nature Center is located at 8511 Greeley Boulevard in Springfield. The program is suitable for children six and older and requires advance registration with a \$4 per person payment. For more information, please call 703-451-9588 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hiddenpond>.

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Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-324-8563 or TTY 703-803-3354. Please allow ten working days in advance of events in order to make the necessary arrangements.